

NEWSLETTER – FRIENDS OF THE SALEM LIBRARY

JANUARY 2011	VOLUME 7	ISSUE 1
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2011 Officers and Board Elected

By the Editor



L/R: Susan Ahalt, Ken Sosnowski, Chris Gladden
(Joyce Foster was unable to attend.)

On Sunday, January 9, the members elected the officers who will lead the organization in 2011. Chris Gladden returns as President, Ken Sosnowski returns as Vice President, and Joyce Foster returns as Treasurer. Susan Ahalt was elected Secretary. The following members were elected to the Board:

Board of Directors:

Sara Ahalt
Charles Draper
Dr. Robert Paine, Jr.
Helen Robertson
Betty Waldron

FOSL 2010 Book Sale

By Sara Ahalt, Chairman, Book Sale Committee

As you have probably already learned, the 2010 Book Sale was quite a success. Net sales were \$7,146, a new record. FOSL members volunteered 732 hours to make it happen. This amounts to over 18 40-hour work weeks. If you were a volunteer, thank you for all your help. If you know a volunteer, please thank him or her for time and energy well spent.

In the days just before and during the Book Sale, you may have noticed a display of the most valuable collectables (or collectibles) found among this year's donations. The most valuable find this year was a 1910 limited edition of the engravings of Sir Francis Seymour Haden. A copy of the book in similar condition was priced at \$400.00. Some other notable finds included a first edition C.S. Forester (unfortunately missing its dust jacket), a three volume set of the letters of Vincent Van Gogh and a first American printing of an iconoclastic Japanese novel.

Every box of donated books holds out the promise of containing something of special value. Even some paperbacks that sold for 49 cents in the 1940s or 1950s can be worth a lot these days. One Monday morning several years ago, we found a battered book in a battered box on the floor outside the community room. The volume was quarto sized, and although the front cover was missing, the rest of the book was bound in leather. The book contained commentaries on English Common Law and had been published in 1790 in Dublin, Ireland. The interior of the book was in good shape, but it needed expensive restoration and a specialized dealer. We sold it to a

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book dealer in California for \$150.00; after restoration its estimated value was \$1500.00. Most of the Book Sale volunteers can recognize that something we find may need to be “priced up.” We have some volunteers who are well versed in recognizing valuable finds and determining current market values.

If you have something in your personal book collection that may have special value, you can check it out. For instance, a first edition of an early Dr. Seuss can be worth hundreds. Here’s a brief outline for checking on a particular title. On the Internet, go to ABE.com. (ABE stands for Advanced Book Exchange).

www.abe.com

1. Go to “advanced search”
2. Type in as much information as possible: author, title, publisher, 1st edition (if you know) and CONDITION.
3. You may find a few or a ton of listings of your title
4. Look for a description that is the closest to your book. Even the color of the cover or the book jacket could be important. Condition is key. Since the descriptions are written by sellers, values are not written in stone, but you will get a general sense of what your book is worth.

Good Luck! ♦



Where the volunteers started



Shopping at the Members Sale



Check out

New Cases for Library's DVDs

By Janis Augustine, *Library Director, Salem Public Library*

At the Friends' October meeting, the group voted to fund the library's startup project of putting all its DVDs in locking cases. Since the library has at least 7,000 DVDs, the Friends agreed to spend up to \$10,000 to buy the cases. Library Director Janis Augustine was able to get almost 10,000 cases for that amount, which will help with future DVD purchases for a time.

It took the Roanoke County Headquarters Library about eight weeks to switch its slightly smaller DVD collection to locked cases so Salem Library staff planned that it would take at least that much time for

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Traveling POW Museum

By Janis Augustine, *Library Director, Salem Public Library*

On Monday, April 18, 2011, a traveling museum will set up shop from 10 AM until 4 PM in the parking lot at the Salem Museum. The traveling museum, or Buseum, will exhibit artifacts about the German and Italian POWs who were imprisoned in the United States during World War II. One of the camps was located in Catawba, and another on Indiana Street in Salem.

The German and Italian POWs were held in over 500 camps across the U.S. They were sent out to harvest and process crops, build roads and waterways, fell

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Salem's conversion. However, under the direction of Teen Services Librarian and Volunteer Coordinator David Butler, it took Salem less than three weeks to make the switch! David and two volunteers, Leisa Thompson and Theresa Baga, worked almost every weekday from December 6 to December 22, on the project. At one time or another during this period, all fulltime staff and most part-time staff helped also. David had some other volunteers and even some of his teens pitched in.



Switching the DVDs to locked cases has greatly reduced the workload and stress level at the front desk. Now staff has time to devote themselves to other projects. In appreciation for the Friends' funding efforts, *library staff and volunteers have attached a label that says "Case provided by the Friends of the Salem Library" to each DVD case.* Thank you, Friends, for your support! ♦

Our Mission:

The Friends of the Salem Library organized in 1988 to pursue the following mission: ***To maintain an association of persons interested in libraries; to focus public attention on the library, its resources and services; to rally public support to ensure adequate library funding at municipal and state levels; to receive and encourage gifts and bequests to the library; to support and cooperate with the library in developing library services and facilities for the community.*** FOSL is chartered as a non-stock corporation under Virginia law and holds tax-exempt status for Federal taxation purposes under Section 501C3 of the Internal Revenue Code.

trees, repair barn roofs, etc. In the process, they formed significant, often decades long friendships, with "the enemy" and underwent considerable changes as individuals and as a group—thus fundamentally influencing post-war German values and institutions, as well as American-German relations. Many even emigrated to the U.S. after the war, and a few came back to Salem.



The Friends of the Salem Library are cosponsoring the traveling exhibit, along with the Salem Historical Society. ♦

FOSL Library Support in 2010

By Joyce Foster, Treasurer

FOSL 2010 expenditures in support of the Salem Library were as follows:

Salem Book Club	\$111.92
Adult Reading Contest Prizes	281.33
Art Show Reception	294.56
Member's Luncheon	263.81
Postage (Letters to legislators)	28.00
Library Book Carts	580.17
TV for meeting room	585.00
Child's Step-n-Wash (2)	778.00
DVD Security Cases & System*	9,859.80
Additional Security Cases*	111.60
Legislative Liaison contribution	<u>350.00</u>
Total	\$13,244.19

*See article beginning on Page 2. ♦

Membership dues (other than life) are on an annual basis and are payable January 1 of each year. Your dues help support the library.

Name _____

Street Address _____

City _____ **State** _____ **ZIP** _____

Telephone _____ **Email** _____

Type: ___ **Individual (\$10);** ___ **Family (\$15);** ___ **Sustaining (\$25);** ___ **Life (\$75)**

Please mail to: Friends of the Salem Library, c/o The Salem Public Library, 28 E. Main St., Salem, VA 24153. Make checks payable to: *Friends of the Salem Library* or *FOSL*. You may also drop this form and your check at the Library Desk.

Officers of the Friends of the Salem Library:

President: Chris Gladden
Vice President: Kenneth Sosnowski
Secretary: Susan Ahalt
Treasurer: Joyce Foster

Board of Directors:

Sara Ahalt Dr. Robert Paine, Jr.
Charles Draper Helen Robertson
Dr. Robert McClanahan, Jr. Betty Waldron

Committees:

Book Sale: Sara Ahalt
Newsletter Editor: Charlie Draper 387-9824

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Internet:

www.salemlibrary.info/Community/Friends_oftheLibrary.aspxl

Membership dues (other than Life) are payable **January 1 of each year**. Consult your mailing label. If the date shown is *prior to 2011*, please renew your membership. Your dues must be current to attend the Members' Book Sale and Luncheon. You may pay by check (payable to FOSL) at the Library desk or by mail.

Important Dates

FOSL holds five regular meetings each year. They are on the 2nd Sunday* of the scheduled month starting at 2PM and last for approximately one hour.

- **March 13**, regular meeting
- **May 15**, Children's Art Show and reception
- **July 10**, regular meeting
- **August 1 through September 8**, Book Sale preparation in Library Meeting Room
- **September 9 through 11**, **FOSL Book Sale** (Sept 10, Olde Salem Days)
- **October 9**, regular meeting

Remember, the more we participate, the better support we can render the Salem Library. ◇

*3rd Sunday in May